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11 SCOWCROFT, L.L. U.S. Ammo TO ISRAEL, BUT NO  
U.S.-MIDEAST DECISION ON PLANES & TANKS AS  
YET.

BY KENNETH J. FREED

WASHINGTON ~~KAP~~ ISRAEL'S NEED FOR ARTILLERY SHELLS AND ANTITANK AMMUNITION WILL BE MET BY THE UNITED STATES, BUT A DECISION WAS STILL BEING WORKED OUT TODAY ON SENDING PLANES AND TANKS.

THE AMMUNITION WAS BEING PREPARED FOR EMERGENCY TRANSFER TO ISRAEL, ACCORDING TO PENTAGON SOURCES. INDICATIONS POINTED TO THE SHIPMENTS MOVING FROM REMOTE BASES IN THE UNITED STATES, POSSIBLY ON ISRAELI PLANES.

THE SITUATION INVOLVING NEW ARMS FOR ISRAEL AND OTHER QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE MIDDLE EAST COULD BE CLARIFIED TODAY BY SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER. HE SCHEDULED HIS FIRST NEWS CONFERENCE SINCE THE WAR STARTED LAST SATURDAY.

DISCUSSIONS CONTINUED INTO THIS MORNING AT THE WHITE HOUSE, STATE DEPARTMENT AND THE PENTAGON ON THE ISSUE OF PROVIDING MAJOR AMERICAN ARMS TO REPLACE ISRAEL'S LOSSES.

BY LATE THURSDAY NIGHT, IT WAS LEARNED, THE ONLY ACTION TAKEN HAD BEEN THE DRAFTING OF CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR TRANSFERRING PLANES AND TANKS TO ISRAEL.

ONE SUCH POSSIBILITY INVOLVED MOVING U.S. AIR FORCE F-4 PHANTOM JETS TO ISRAEL FROM AMERICAN BASES IN EUROPE. THESE WOULD BE REPLACED BY PLANES BEING PRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES.

WHILE THESE CONTINGENCY PLANS AWAITED A FINAL DECISION, PREPARATIONS WERE MADE TO SEND ISRAEL TONS OF AMMUNITION AS A "QUICK FIX" AFTER IT WAS DETERMINED THE FIRST SIX DAYS OF FIGHTING HAD REDUCED STOCKPILES TO SERIOUS BUT NOT EXTREMELY DANGEROUS LEVELS.

SOME OFFICIALS SAID SENDING THE SHELLS NOW ALSO WAS A RESPONSE TO THE CONTINUING SHIPMENT OF RUSSIAN EQUIPMENT TO EGYPT AND SYRIA.

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